

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Satoshi SHIDA et al. : Attn: BOX PCT  
Serial No. NEW : Docket No. 2002\_0278A  
Filed February 26, 2002 :

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HANDLING  
ARRAYED COMPONENTS  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/05672  
Filed August 24, 2000]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 is enclosed.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and  
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstracts,
  - e. ☒ References AM and AN (i.e. Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 4-63442 and Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-283983) are cited in the Written Opinion.
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Satoshi SHIDA et al.

By Michael S. Huppert

Michael S. Huppert  
Registration No. 40,268  
Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
February 26, 2002

10/069401

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2002\_0278A3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 FEB 2002  
SERIAL NO.  
NEWU.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT  
Satoshi SHIDA et al.

Date Submitted to PTO: February 26, 2002

FILING DATE  
February 26, 2002

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AI	60-161630	8/1985	JP			Abstr.	
	AJ	10-270532	10/1998	JP			Abstr.	
	AK	11-8259	1/1999	JP			Abstr.	
	AL	7-221164	8/1995	JP			Abstr.	
	AM	4-63442	2/1992	JP			Abstr.	
	AN	9-283983	10/1997	JP			Abstr.	
	AO	45-29862	9/1970	JP				X

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AP	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 137692/1986 (Laid-open No. 42506/1988) (NEC Corporation), 22 March 1988.
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.